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**EXHIBIT 1**

# Transcript of Samantha L. Crabtree

**Date:** September 23, 2020  
**Case:** Pursley -v- The City of Rockford, et al.

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22 Job No.: 323185  
23 Pages: 1 - 123  
24 Reported By: Konni L. Stapf, CSR, RPR

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\*\* ALL PARTIES ATTENDED REMOTELY \*\*

10 Pursuant to subpoena, before Konni L.  
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12 Professional Reporter in and for the State of  
13 Illinois.

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1 SAMANTHA L. CRABTREE,  
2 a witness herein, having been first duly sworn to  
3 speak the truth and nothing but the truth, was  
4 examined and testified as follows:

5

## EXAMINATION

7 BY MS. BRADY:

8 Q. Good morning, Ms. Crabtree. My name is  
9 Rachel Brady, and I represent the plaintiff in this  
10 lawsuit named Patrick Pursley.

11                   Can you, please, state your name and  
12                   spell it for the record.

13                   A.           Samantha Crabtree, S-a-m-a-n-t-h-a,  
14                   C-r-a-b-t-r-e-e.

15 Q. Okay. Let the record reflect that this  
16 is the deposition of Samantha Crabtree taken  
17 pursuant to subpoena and the federal rules of civil  
18 procedure.

19 By agreement, and due to the ongoing  
20 Coronavirus crisis, the parties are in separate  
21 spaces and the deposition is proceeding by Zoom.

22 Ms. Crabtree, where are you currently  
23 located?

24 A. At the Dykema Law Firm in Chicago.

1 Q. Is anyone in the room with you?

2 A. Kevin.

3 Q. And that's your attorney?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Is anyone else in there?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Have you ever been deposed before?

8 A. No.

9 Q. I'll go over some of the ground rules.

10 I am going to ask you questions and you  
11 need to give answers. You just took an oath, so  
12 you need to testify truthfully just as if you were  
13 testifying in a courtroom.

14 If you don't understand one of my  
15 questions, please just ask me to clarify it, and I  
16 will do my best to ask a better question. On the  
17 flip side, if you do answer my question, I'm going  
18 to assume that you understood it. Okay?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And because there is a court reporter  
21 transcribing everything that we say, in order to  
22 get a clean record, I would just ask that you wait  
23 for me to ask my full question before you start  
24 your answer, even if you think you know where my

1 question is going. And likewise, I will wait for  
2 you to complete your answer before I start asking  
3 my next question.

4 A. Yes, ma'am.

5 Q. And then for that reason too, it's  
6 important that you keep your answers verbal so  
7 rather than like nodding your head or shrugging  
8 your shoulders, you need to say a loud yes or no.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. From time to time your lawyer or one of  
11 the other lawyers on the deposition might object to  
12 one of my questions. Unless your lawyer instructs  
13 you not to answer, you should let everybody finish  
14 their objections, and then go ahead and answer the  
15 question.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. And we can take a break any time that  
18 you need one unless there is a question pending.  
19 So if you need a break, just let me know, you can  
20 finish your answer to whatever question that I just  
21 asked and then we can take a break.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. All right. Is there any reason that  
24 you cannot provide complete and accurate answers to

1 my questions today?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Do you have any conditions that might  
4 affect your ability to provide truthful and  
5 accurate testimony?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Do you have any conditions affecting  
8 your memory?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Do you take any medications that affect  
11 your memory?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Other than in this -- I'm sorry.

14 Strike that.

15 Have you ever been a party to a civil  
16 lawsuit?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Okay. And either as a plaintiff or as  
19 a defendant?

20 A. No.

21 Q. And have you ever been a criminal  
22 defendant in a lawsuit?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. How many cases have you been a criminal

1 defendant in?

2 A. I think one, maybe two -- two.

3 Q. Can you tell me what those cases were  
4 about?

5 A. One was for robbery and second was for  
6 perjury.

7 Q. And what was the outcome of the robbery  
8 case, do you remember?

9 A. I pleaded guilty.

10 Q. And what was the outcome of the perjury  
11 case?

12 A. I pleaded guilty.

13 Q. Did you do anything to prepare for your  
14 deposition today?

15 A. Conversations with my attorney.

16 Q. Without telling me what you discussed  
17 with your attorney, can you tell me how many times  
18 you met with your attorney?

19 A. Face-to-face?

20 Q. Or conversations that you had over the  
21 phone or Zoom?

22 A. About three.

23 Q. And was anyone with you when you met  
24 with your attorney?

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1           A.       No.

2           Q.       Or talked to your attorney?

3           A.       No.

4           Q.       And about when were your meetings or  
5 conversations with your attorney?

6           A.       Various times.

7           Q.       Like when was the most recent  
8 conversation you had with your attorney about this  
9 dep?

10          A.       Yesterday.

11          Q.       And do you remember about how long that  
12 conversation lasted?

13          A.       15 minutes.

14          Q.       Okay. Then before that, do you  
15 remember when the next most recent conversation you  
16 had with your attorney was?

17          A.       I believe on Monday.

18          Q.       And about how long did that  
19 conversation last?

20          A.       About 15, 20 minutes.

21          Q.       Okay. And then before that, you said  
22 that you thought you maybe had a third conversation  
23 with your attorney. Do you remember when that was?

24          A.       It was some time in the week prior.

1           Q.        Okay.  And do you remember about how  
2 long that conversation lasted?

3           A.        Probably about 30 minutes.

4           Q.        And during any of those meetings or, I  
5 guess, otherwise, did you review any documents or,  
6 like, transcripts to prepare for this deposition?

7           A.        No.

8           Q.        Did you review any, like, newspaper  
9 articles or media posts or anything like that?

10          A.        No.

11          Q.        Have you at any point since 1994  
12 reviewed any documents or transcripts related to  
13 the Ascher murder or Patrick Pursley's criminal  
14 trial?

15          A.        No.

16          Q.        Have you reviewed your own testimony  
17 transcripts from any of the testimony that you gave  
18 or any of the statements that you gave?

19                   (Discussion off the record; technical  
20 difficulty.)

21 BY MS. BRADY:

22          Q.        I'll ask that one again.  Have you  
23 reviewed transcripts from your own -- any of the  
24 testimony that you gave in relation to the Ascher

1 homicide or, like, typed versions of the statements  
2 that you gave during the Ascher investigation?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Have you read the complaint in Patrick  
5 Pursley's civil case, the one we're taking this  
6 deposition for?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Do you have an understanding of what  
9 that civil case is about?

10 A. I have the understanding of what was  
11 stated on the subpoena.

12 Q. Okay. And can you describe to me, as  
13 best that you can, what your understanding is about  
14 this civil case?

15 A. It's a lawsuit brought on by Patrick  
16 Pursley against the City of Rockford.

17 Q. Do you know anything else about this  
18 civil case?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Do you know who any of the defendants  
21 are?

22 A. I don't believe so, no.

23 Q. I'm just going to read you a list of  
24 names, and then when I'm done, I'll ask you if you

1 know who any of those people are.

2 Steve Pirages, Howard Forrester, James  
3 Barton, John Genens, Jeff Houde, Gary Reffett, Dave  
4 Ekedahl, Mark Schmidt, Doug Williams, James Bowman.

5 Do you know who any of those people  
6 are?

7 A. The Forrester name I remember from  
8 previously, but I'm not sure who that is.

9 MR. POTTINGER: That's breaking up.  
10 I'm not sure if the court reporter is experiencing  
11 that same thing.

12 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, it's  
13 definitely breaking up.

14 MR. POTTINGER: I think generally this  
15 is kind of breaking up -- I'm not sure if that's  
16 just -- it's not just you. It seems like everyone  
17 is --

18 MR. CONNOR: The witness is also having  
19 some trouble over here.

20 MR. HUOTARI: This is Joel speaking. I  
21 think if everybody who is not speaking could turn  
22 off their video feed, it might reduce the burden on  
23 Zoom.

24 (Discussion off the record; technical

1 difficulty.)

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3 Q. So the last question I asked you, I  
4 read you a list of names. Did you hear the  
5 complete list or did it break up?

6 A. I would like you to repeat it to make  
7 sure that it didn't.

8 Q. So the list was Steven Pirages, Howard  
9 Forrester, James Barton, John Genens, Jeff Houde,  
10 Gary Reffett, David Ekedahl, Mark Schmidt, Doug  
11 Williams, or James Bowman.

12 A. No. As I said, the Forrester name is  
13 familiar, but I don't even know who that is.

14 Q. What about Pete Striupaitis, Jack  
15 Welty, or Dan Gunnell?

16 A. No, I have no idea who they are.

17 Q. Okay. And you said that you were  
18 familiar with Howard Forrester. Can you tell me  
19 why you're familiar with the name Howard Forrester?

20 A. I just remember the name.

21 Q. Okay. Other than your attorney, have  
22 you discussed this deposition with anyone?

23 A. No.

24 Q. You haven't talked to anybody from the

1 State's Attorney's Office or the Rockford Police  
2 Department or anything like that?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Have you personally spoken with any of  
5 the attorneys representing the defendants? So  
6 that's all the folks who are on the Zoom right now.

7 A. No.

8 Q. Where were you born?

9 A. Rockford, Illinois.

10 Q. And where did you grow up?

11 A. Loves Park, Illinois.

12 Q. Are you currently married?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Do you have any children?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you give me the names of your  
17 children, please.

18 A. Daniel, Erica, Marcus, Nyjah, and  
19 McKenzie.

20 Q. And do they all share your last name?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Can you tell me your children's full  
23 names, please.

24 A. Sure. Daniel Eddy, Erica Eddy, Marcus

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1       Crabtree, Nyjah Pursley, McKenzie Crabtree.

2       Q.        Okay. And where do your children live?

3       A.        Various places.

4       Q.        Okay. Where does Daniel live?

5       A.        In Illinois.

6       Q.        What about Erica?

7       A.        Michigan.

8       Q.        Marcus?

9       A.        Rockford, Illinois.

10      Q.        Where does Nyjah live?

11      A.        Arkansas.

12      Q.        And where does McKenzie live?

13      A.        Illinois. Rockford.

14      Q.        And you live in Rockford now, correct?

15      A.        Yes.

16      Q.        Are you employed?

17      A.        Not at this time.

18      Q.        Okay. Did you graduate from high  
19      school?

20      A.        Yes.

21      Q.        When was that?

22      A.        1987.

23      Q.        And what high school did you graduate  
24      from?

1 A. Harlem High School.

2 Q. And that was in Rockford or Loves Park?

3 A. That's in Machesney Park, actually.

4 Q. And then after high school, did you go  
5 on to any additional schooling?

6 A. Yes, I did.

7 Q. What was that?

8 A. There were various times that I went  
9 back to school. I do have an associate's in  
10 business management.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. And have started my bachelor's in human  
13 resources.

14 Q. Are you currently in school?

15 A. Not at this time, not enrolled.

16 Q. After you graduated high school, what  
17 was your first job?

18 A. After high school?

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. I believe I worked for Burger King in  
21 Machesney Park.

22 Q. And do you remember how long that you  
23 worked for the Burger King in Machesney Park?

24 A. A couple of years.

1           Q.       And then after that job at Burger King,  
2 where did you work?

3           A.       I don't remember.

4           Q.       Can you tell me any other jobs that you  
5 remember having in high school?

6           A.       In high school?

7           Q.       Since high school.

8           A.       Yes, I remember some.

9           Q.       Can you tell me about the other jobs  
10 that you had apart from the Burger King?

11          A.       Well, last year I worked for a company,  
12 actually into this year, called Ageatia based out  
13 of Schaumburg. Prior to that, I worked for  
14 Corporate Services based out of Rockford in two  
15 different locations, in Dixon and Sterling.

16           Before that, I worked at a company  
17 called Bacon's Information that was for about five  
18 years. That's basically, I guess it. There are a  
19 few in there I don't remember.

20          Q.       Okay. And you said that you were most  
21 recently employed at Ageatia?

22          A.       Ageatia Global Solutions.

23          Q.       What did you do for Ageatia?

24          A.       I was a business development account

1 manager.

2 Q. And you said that was about a year?

3 A. It ended in July of this year due to  
4 COVID.

5 Q. And then what did you do for Corporate  
6 Services?

7 A. I was a branch manager. It's all  
8 staffing.

9 Q. And for how long were you at Corporate  
10 Services?

11 A. Six years.

12 Q. And then you said Bacon's Information?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. And what did you do there?

15 A. That was a clipping service. I had a  
16 few jobs there.

17 Q. Okay. Do you live with anyone  
18 currently?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Who do you live with?

21 A. My significant other, Michael Fuller.

22 Q. Fuller?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. All right. And I think that you

1 mentioned this, but what was your associate's  
2 degree in?

3 A. Business management.

4 Q. Okay. So I want to start off by asking  
5 you some questions about an exhibit that I'm going  
6 to put up on the screen, so give me a second and  
7 then let me know if you can't see it.

8 Can you see this document on your  
9 screen?

10 A. I'm sorry, what did you say?

11 Q. Can you see this document on your  
12 screen?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay. So for the record this is a  
15 one-page document Bates labeled Schmidt 67.

16 Ms. Crabtree, have you ever seen this  
17 document before?

18 A. Upon the advise of my counsel, I assert  
19 my Fifth Amendment Right and respectfully decline  
20 to answer the question.

21 Q. And I think earlier, before we went on  
22 the record, your counsel said that you were going  
23 to be taking the Fifth and to save time after  
24 asserting your right formally, just this time, that

1 going forward you can just say Fifth Amendment or  
2 something like that, and we all understand.

3 A. Thank you.

4 Q. Okay. Do you recall giving this  
5 statement?

6 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

7 Q. I'd like to direct your attention to  
8 this second paragraph. So this is kind of four big  
9 paragraphs and I'm looking at the second one now.

10 It says, on the morning of 4/15/93  
11 Patrick got up at, approximately, 4:30 a.m. and he  
12 put on his black combat boots and his black  
13 pullover sweatshirt and a pair of jeans, and he  
14 left and he did not tell me where he was going. He  
15 was gone for about an hour.

16 When he returned, he did not say  
17 anything. He just took a bath and stayed up, but  
18 he did not tell me where he had went. Later that  
19 day, sometime in the afternoon, I saw that Patrick  
20 had a large -- something, I can't read that word --  
21 of money, and I figured that he had robbed  
22 something that morning when he had left.

23 Do you see that?

24 A. I'm taking the Fifth.

1 Q. That statement isn't true, is it?

2 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. And you made this statement because

4 Detective Schmidt and Forrester told you to, right?

5 MR. IASPARRO: Objection. Form.

6 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MS. BRADY:

8 Q. Now, if you look down to the final  
9 paragraph of this document, it says, that weekend I  
10 asked Patrick if he had robbed the Burger King on  
11 Riverside, and he stated, yes, nothing more was  
12 said about that.

13 Do you see that?

14 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

15 Q. And do you see your initials at the  
16 beginning and the end of that sentence?

17 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

18 Q. This sentence isn't true, correct?

19 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

20 MR. IASPARRO: I object to form with  
21 respect to that question. Michael Iasparro.

22 BY MS. BRADY:

23 Q. And you included this sentence in your  
24 statement or these two sentences in your statement

1 because Detective Schmidt and Forrester told you  
2 to; isn't that right?

3 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

4 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MS. BRADY:

6 Q. And do you see your signature down  
7 there at the bottom signed Samantha L. Crabtree  
8 1993?

9 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. That's your signature, right?

11 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

12 Q. And you signed this document even  
13 though it wasn't true, correct?

14 A. I'm taking the Fifth.

15 MR. IASPARRO: I object to form with  
16 respect to that question.

17 BY MS. BRADY:

18 Q. And you signed the statement because  
19 you felt threatened by Detective Schmidt and  
20 Forrester; isn't that right?

21 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

22 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

23 MR. POTTINGER: This is Robert  
24 Pottinger on behalf of the Estate of Howard

1 Forrester. I just wanted to make sure that we got  
2 on the record that we had a stipulation prior to  
3 the deposition that all the other codefendants are  
4 joining in with the initial objection by one of the  
5 other defense counsel.

6 MR. MOGBANA: And also, this is Ifeanyi  
7 with the City. If the witness could just pause a  
8 little bit so that the objection would come in  
9 before she asserts the Fifth, that way, we'll have  
10 a clean record. Thank you very much.

11 THE WITNESS: Yes. Absolutely.

12 MS. BRADY: And for the record, we can  
13 mark this document as Exhibit 1.

14 (Deposition Exhibit 1 marked  
15 for identification.)

16 MS. BRADY: I'm now going to show you  
17 another exhibit that we'll mark as Exhibit 2.

18 (Deposition Exhibit 2 marked  
19 for identification.)

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21 Q. This is a 12-page document, beginning  
22 at the Bates labeled RFD Defendants 5234.

23 Can you see this document on your  
24 screen, Ms. Crabtree?

1           A.       Yes.

2           Q.       So for the record, this is a transcript  
3 of the Grand Jury testimony that you gave on  
4 June 23, 1993. I'm going to just scroll through  
5 the pages, unless you have a paper copy in front of  
6 you. Do you?

7           A.       No.

8           Q.       I'm just going to flip through the  
9 pages, so you can take a look at it, and then I'll  
10 ask you about it, you know, some specific things  
11 that are in here, but I just want you to  
12 familiarize yourself with the document itself.

13               Ms. Crabtree, have you ever seen the  
14 transcript of your Grand Jury statement before?

15           A.       I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

16           Q.       All right. So I'm going to flip now to  
17 the third page of this testimony, which is Bates  
18 labeled RFD Defendants 5236, and direct your  
19 attention to this exchange right here that I just  
20 highlighted.

21               So the question was: "Now, Sam, is it  
22 correct, before we had you come in here today --  
23 we meaning someone in our office -- an attorney in  
24 our office, took you before Judge Agnew and our

1 office requested immunity for you regarding what  
2 you were going to testify to before the Grand  
3 Jury?" And you, the witness, responded yes?

4 Do you see that there?

5 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. Do you recall the offer of immunity  
7 that you received in exchange for your Grand Jury  
8 testimony?

9 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. If you look at the next page, this is  
11 the fourth page of this transcript. Starting down  
12 here at this line that I've highlighted. This is  
13 you being questioned.

14 The question is: "Sam, I'm going to  
15 ask you about the events of Friday night April 2 of  
16 this year. That is the night Andy Ascher was shot.  
17 Were you and Patrick home that Friday night early  
18 in the evening?" And you answered, "yes".

19 The question is: "About what time did  
20 you and he leave home? The answer was: "About  
21 9:00?"

22 Do you see that?

23 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Okay. This was not true; isn't that

1 right?

2 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

3 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MS. BRADY:

5 Q. All right. So I'm continuing down the  
6 bottom of this page. The question is: "Where did  
7 you and he go when you left at 9:00 p.m.?"

8 Flipping to the next page, and you  
9 said, "We were going to find a house to break  
10 into."

11 That testimony wasn't true either, was  
12 it?

13 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

14 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MS. BRADY:

16 Q. Now, I'm jumping down to this line.  
17 The question was: "Did you around 10:00 that same  
18 evening end up on a street you know to be Silent  
19 Wood, which is near the intersection of Harrison  
20 and Alpine?" And you answered, "Yes". That wasn't  
21 true, was it?

22 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

23 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

24 BY MS. BRADY:

1           Q.       And then down at the bottom of this it  
2 just says, "Did he, referring to Patrick Pursley,  
3 have a gun with him?" And you said, "At that time  
4 I did not know."

5                   The next page the question is: "Did  
6 you later find out that he had a gun?" And you  
7 said, "Yes". The question was: "What kind of  
8 gun?" The answer was: "It was a 9 millimeter  
9 Taurus."

10                  Do you see that?

11           A.       I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

12           Q.       And this testimony wasn't true,  
13 correct?

14                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

15           A.       I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MS. BRADY:

17           Q.       And then down at the bottom of this  
18 page -- I'm right here now.

19                   The question is: "What happened when  
20 you stopped the car and turned the lights off?"

21                  Now, I'm flipping to the next page, the  
22 answer was: "Patrick got out the passenger side  
23 and ran behind the car.

24                  "Question: How long was he gone from

1 the car, could you estimate?

2 "Answer: Probably a minute and a half,  
3 two minutes.

4 "Question: What did you hear when he  
5 was out of the car?

6 "Answer: At first, I heard nothing and  
7 then I heard two gun shots.

8 "Question: What happened then?

9 "Answer: I just -- he ran back to the  
10 car and got in.

11 "Question: And what did he say, if  
12 anything, or what did he do when he got in?

13 "Answer: He got in the car and sat on  
14 the floorboard on the passenger side and told me to  
15 drive."

16 Ms. Crabtree, none of that is true,  
17 correct?

18 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

19 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21 Q. You were never on Silent Wood, correct?

22 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

23 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

24 BY MS. BRADY:

1 Q. And you didn't hear any gun shots;  
2 isn't that right?

3 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

4 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MS. BRADY:

6 Q. So if you go down to the bottom of this  
7 page, I'm still on page 7 of this Grand Jury  
8 testimony.

9 The question is: "Did you see a gun at  
10 that point?

11 "Answer: Yes.

12 "Question: Where did he have the gun  
13 when he got in the car?

14 "Answer: He had it in his hand.

15 "Question: That's the Taurus gun?

16 "Answer: Yes."

17 That testimony was false, wasn't it?

18 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

19 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21 Q. Now, I'm flipping to page 9 of this  
22 transcript, which is RFD Defendant 5242 at the very  
23 bottom.

24 Starting here the question is: "Sam, I

1 have just a few more questions. I know you are  
2 upset. I'll ask you the question if you need a few  
3 more minutes to collect yourself. When you got off  
4 the phone with Jill, what did you do with Patrick?

5 "Answer: I went in the bedroom and  
6 asked him if he knew who it was who he shot."

7 And then the next page, the question  
8 is: "You asked if he knew who it was he shot?

9 "Answer: Yes.

10 "Question: And what did he say?

11 "Answer: No.

12 "Question: Tell us what else was said  
13 between the two of you.

14 "Answer: I said it was a friend of  
15 Jill's that got shot.

16 "Question: What did he say?

17 "Answer: So. And I said, doesn't it  
18 matter to you? And he said, no. Does it matter to  
19 you? And I said no.

20 "Question: And why did you say no?

21 "Answer: Because I was afraid that he  
22 would hurt me."

23 Do you see that testimony?

24 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MS. BRADY:

2 Q. This testimony is not true, correct?

3 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

4 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MS. BRADY:

6 Q. And in fact, it's not true that you  
7 were afraid that he would hurt you, correct?

8 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

9 A. I'm taking the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MS. BRADY:

11 Q. And then if you flip down to page 11,  
12 this is RFD Defendants 5244 at the very top of this  
13 page. The question is: "Was there anything on the  
14 news about this incident?

15 "Answer: Yes.

16 "Question: What did Patrick say before  
17 you left for work?

18 "Answer: He said if I told anyone that  
19 he would know and if, you know, if anyone found  
20 out, that he would have me and my children killed.

21 "Question: Did he say something about  
22 if you would tell anybody you, Sam, would be in as  
23 much trouble as he was because you were part of  
24 it?"

1                   That testimony was untrue, correct?

2                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

3                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MS. BRADY:

5                   Q.        And, in fact, Patrick never told you  
6 that he would have you and your children killed,  
7 correct?

8                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

9                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MS. BRADY:

11                  Q.        Okay. I'm going to put up another  
12 document that will be Exhibit 3.

13                  This is a four-page document Bates  
14 labeled Pursley 3093. And this is a statement from  
15 June 10, '93.

16                  Ms. Crabtree, can you see this document  
17 on your computer?

18                  A.        Yes.

19                  Q.        I'm just going to flip through the  
20 pages so you can take a look at the whole thing.

21                  This is the wrong document. That was  
22 my bad.

23                  MS. BRADY: Let's go off the record for  
24 a second.

1 (Recess taken.)

2 MS. BRADY: This is actually Exhibit 3  
3 this is a six-page document starting 7582.

4 (Deposition Exhibit 3 marked  
5 for identification.)

6 BY MS. BRADY:

7 Q. So this is Exhibit 3. It's a six-page  
8 document starting on Bates labeled Jenner 7582.

9 Can you see this document on your  
10 screen?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Have you seen this statement before,  
13 Ms. Crabtree?

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 Q. Okay. Is that your signature there at  
16 the bottom?

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 Q. So if you look on the first page of  
19 this document, the very first paragraph it says,  
20 "Around the beginning of April, on a Friday night,  
21 I was at my house at 901 Ashland Avenue, with my  
22 boyfriend, Patrick Pursley, and I was complaining  
23 about all the bills we had and no money to pay  
24 them. It was around 8:00 p.m. that night and me

1 and Patrick started arguing about how broke we were  
2 and Patrick said that he could take care of it."

3 Do you see that?

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 Q. Okay. This was untrue, right?

6 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

7 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MS. BRADY:

9 Q. The next paragraph says, "Patrick  
10 started telling me how he could break into a house  
11 and find some money or property to sell for money  
12 to help us out. Patrick told me he wanted me to  
13 drive him around some neighborhoods on the east  
14 side of town, and he would look for a house to  
15 break into."

16 That was not true, correct?

17 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

18 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

19 BY MS. BRADY:

20 Q. Now, I'm turning to the second page of  
21 this document. This second paragraph starting  
22 right here. It says, "Patrick wasn't saying  
23 anything in the car, so I just kept driving west on  
24 Harrison. I figured if Patrick didn't see anything

1 soon, we would just go back home. I was driving in  
2 the right-hand lane, and we just crossed Alpine,  
3 still westbound on Harrison, and Patrick told me to  
4 get into the left-hand lane, which I did. We drove  
5 a little ways past the McDonald's and Patrick had  
6 me turn left into a neighborhood that was all small  
7 apartment buildings and we drove a little ways in  
8 this neighborhood and I came back out onto  
9 Harrison. Patrick again told me to turn left on  
10 Harrison going westbound and it was only a short  
11 ways from there Patrick told me to turn left again.  
12 I turned left onto Silent Wood from Harrison and  
13 followed the winding road."

14 Do you see that?

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 Q. Nothing in that paragraph is true, is  
17 it?

18 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21 Q. Okay. And the reason this is in your  
22 statement is because Detective Schmidt and  
23 Forrester told you to mention these locations in  
24 your statement, didn't they?

1                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

2                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MS. BRADY:

4                   Q.        Take a look at the next paragraph. It  
5 says, "While I was driving down Silent Wood, I  
6 could see some big empty fields and there was a few  
7 apartments on the right side of the road as we  
8 started down Silent Wood. I continued to follow  
9 the winding road, and I came to some large  
10 apartment buildings and Patrick told me to turn the  
11 car around. I thought that I could make a U-turn  
12 but the road was not wide enough, so I had to back  
13 up and pull into a driveway of one of apartment  
14 buildings to turn around.

15                  The driveway I turned around in was the  
16 same driveway that I pointed out to you today when  
17 you took me out. I then drove back towards  
18 Harrison on Silent Wood and just as we passed the  
19 apartments that were now on my left, Patrick told  
20 me to stop the car. I pulled my car over to the  
21 curb and Patrick told me to turn my lights off and  
22 wait there for him. This location is also the same  
23 spot I pointed out to you today."

24                  Do you see that paragraph?

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2           Q.       And nothing in this paragraph is true,  
3 is it?

4                    MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

5           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 BY MS. BRADY:

7           Q.       And, in fact, Detective Schmidt and  
8 Forrester took you out and had you drive to  
9 specific locations so that you would be able to  
10 adopt their story as your own; isn't that right?

11                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

12           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 BY MS. BRADY:

14           Q.       Now, I'm going to read the very bottom  
15 of this page going on to the next page.

16                  It says, "Patrick told me to keep my  
17 car running and wait there on Silent Wood for him  
18 and he got out of the car and walked back towards  
19 the apartments. I thought he spied a house to  
20 break in, and I was waiting there for about two or  
21 three minutes when I heard two gunshots go off."

22                  That didn't happen, did it?

23                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

24           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MS. BRADY:

2 Q. The next paragraph says, "When I heard  
3 the gunshots go off, I got real scared. I thought  
4 Patrick must have shot somebody. I kept watching  
5 for Patrick to come back, but it was dark, and I  
6 couldn't see anything. And about a minute after  
7 the shots, Patrick opened the passenger side door  
8 to my car, and he got into the car and sat on the  
9 passenger floorboard of my car and told me to  
10 drive. I said where? And Patrick said he didn't  
11 care, just drive. I asked Patrick what happened,  
12 and again he said just drive."

13 That's not true, is it, Ms. Crabtree?

14 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MS. BRADY:

17 Q. And, in fact, you and Patrick never  
18 left your apartment to go rob houses that night,  
19 did you?

20 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MS. BRADY:

23 Q. The next paragraph says, "When Patrick  
24 got into my car, Patrick had my Taurus 9 millimeter

1 hand gun in his hand."

2 That wasn't true, was it?

3 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MS. BRADY:

6 Q. The next says, "I was scared and since  
7 Patrick had the gun in his hand, and I heard the  
8 shots and Patrick wanted me to get out of the area  
9 fast, I figured he must have shot somebody."

10 That's not true, is it?

11 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 BY MS. BRADY:

14 Q. And skipping down now a couple of  
15 lines, so I'm picking up right here in this  
16 sentence. "When I ran over the median, Patrick got  
17 mad at me, and he pointed the gun at me and said,  
18 if you get me caught, I will kill you. I swear I  
19 will kill you right now."

20 Do you see that?

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 Q. Patrick Pursley never said that to you,  
23 did he?

24 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       And the only reason this is in your  
4 statement is because Detective Schmidt and  
5 Forrester told you to include it in your statement,  
6 right?

7           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

8           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MS. BRADY:

10          Q.       Now, I'm skipping down a couple more  
11 lines picking up right here. It says, "I then  
12 turned left again by Aldi's to turn around, and I  
13 seen that this road went through, so I kept going.  
14 And then I was going to turn left again and go back  
15 to Harrison, but we then seen two squad cars going  
16 east on Harrison with their red lights and sirens  
17 on. Patrick also heard the police cars and then he  
18 looked out and seen them, and he thought that I was  
19 taking him to the area we just came from, and he  
20 told me, where are taking me? If you are taking me  
21 back there, I'll kill you, Sam, I swear I'll kill  
22 you. Patrick pointed his gun at me again, and I  
23 told him that I was trying to go home."

24           Patrick personally never threatened you

1 like that, did he?

2 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MS. BRADY:

5 Q. And, in fact, nothing in the couple of  
6 sentences that I just read ever happened, did it?

7 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

8 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MS. BRADY:

10 Q. And this information is in your  
11 statement because Detective Schmidt and Forrester  
12 told you to include it, right?

13 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MS. BRADY:

16 Q. Now, I'm at the very bottom sentence of  
17 this page starting right here.

18 "Patrick had the gun in his hand the  
19 entire time I was driving. And every time I would  
20 mess up, he would point the gun at me and threaten  
21 to shoot me if I get him caught."

22 That's not true, is it?

23 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

24 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MS. BRADY:

2 Q. And, in fact, Detective Schmidt and  
3 Forrester told you to include that information in  
4 your statement, right?

5 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MS. BRADY:

8 Q. I'm flipping onto the next page. This  
9 is page 4 of this statement, the second full  
10 paragraph.

11 It says, "When we got into our house, I  
12 went into the bathroom and got ready for bed.  
13 Patrick went right into the bedroom and turned on  
14 his police scanner and laid on the bed. I was  
15 still scared and didn't even want to talk about it.  
16 And when I got out to our bedroom, I got into bed  
17 and Patrick got up, turned the scanner off, got  
18 undressed and got into bed."

19 That's not accurate, is it?

20 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MS. BRADY:

23 Q. The next paragraph says, "The next  
24 morning, Saturday, I got up around 8:00 a.m. and

1 took a bath. I then started to get dressed and  
2 Patrick woke up around 8:45 a.m. and he got up and  
3 ran his bath water. When Patrick was finished with  
4 his bath, he started to get dressed, and he emptied  
5 his pockets onto the bed from the pants that he was  
6 wearing Friday night, and I seen a wad of money  
7 which looked like about \$100."

8 Do you see that?

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. And that -- those sentences that I just  
11 read to you are not accurate, correct?

12 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MS. BRADY:

15 Q. You included this information in the  
16 statement because Detective Schmidt and Forrester  
17 told you to, right?

18 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21 Q. Or because Detective Schmidt and  
22 Forrester made you feel that you were supposed to  
23 include this information in order to go home and  
24 see your children again, right?

1                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

2                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MS. BRADY:

4                   Q.        Now, I'm on page 5 of this statement.

5 Starting at the very top line right here. It says,  
6 "When I got off the phone, I went into the bedroom  
7 where Patrick was, and I asked Patrick if he knew  
8 who it was that he shot last night, and Patrick  
9 said no, who? I told Patrick it was a friend of  
10 Jill's. Patrick just said, so. I then asked  
11 Patrick if it bothered him, and he said, no, does  
12 it matter to you? And I said, no, it didn't matter  
13 to me because I was afraid to say it did matter to  
14 me. Patrick then asked me if the girl got shot  
15 too, and I told him no, and I left the bedroom."

16                   That wasn't true, was it?

17                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

18                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

19 BY MS. BRADY:

20                   Q.        The next paragraph says, "I got ready  
21 for work and before I left for work, I made sure I  
22 caught the 5:00 news on TV. I then heard on the  
23 news that Andy Ascher was shot and killed, and it  
24 was at some apartment on Silent Wood. It stated it

1 happened Friday night in the parking lot and then  
2 gave a description of the suspect, but I can't  
3 remember what all they said, but I knew it was  
4 Patrick that they were describing.

5                   Patrick was watching the news with me  
6 and after they told about the murder, I had to  
7 leave for work. Patrick said to me just before I  
8 left the house, don't say anything to anybody or I  
9 will know about it. Patrick also said if I did  
10 tell anybody, I would be in just as much trouble as  
11 he was because I was part of it."

12                  That conversation never happened, did  
13 it?

14                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

15                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MS. BRADY:

17                  Q.        The next paragraph says, "Patrick was  
18 very nervous after this happened and in the next  
19 few days after this happened, Patrick kept telling  
20 me that if the police caught him, and I said  
21 anything to them about what happened, like I am  
22 now, he would come back or have somebody kill me  
23 and my two children, but not my baby Marcus because  
24 he was mixed, but he wouldn't have any problem with

1 killing me and the other two children."

2                   Patrick Pursley never threatened to  
3 kill you and your children, did he?

4                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

5                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 BY MS. BRADY:

7                   Q.        In fact, you included this in your  
8 statement because Detective Schmidt and Forrester  
9 told you to, right?

10                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

11                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MS. BRADY:

13                  Q.        The next sentence, I'm right here now,  
14 "The gun Patrick used to shoot Andy Ascher was my  
15 gun I bought in February of this year. It was a  
16 Taurus brand 9 millimeter that held 15 rounds in  
17 the clip and one round in the chamber."

18                  You -- strike that.

19                  This is not an accurate statement,  
20 correct?

21                  MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

22                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 BY MS. BRADY:

24                  Q.        Okay. Patrick personally didn't use

1 any gun to kill Andy Ascher, did he?

2 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MS. BRADY:

5 Q. And you didn't know that there were 15  
6 rounds in the clip and one round in the chamber,  
7 right?

8 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MS. BRADY:

11 Q. In fact, those weren't even your words,  
12 were they?

13 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MS. BRADY:

16 Q. Now, I'm here, the bottom two lines of  
17 this paragraph. It says, "I found the bullets  
18 missing from the cabinet, so I asked Patrick what  
19 happened to them, and he said he threw them away,  
20 and he said it was by accident. He didn't mean to  
21 throw them away."

22 That conversation never happened, did  
23 it?

24 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2       BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       Now, I'm turning to the final page of  
4       this statement. The first line at the very top  
5       says, "I think it was about a week after I  
6       discovered the bullets missing. I took my gun and  
7       cleaned it. I took the gun apart to clean it. I  
8       just used the brush that came with it and run it  
9       through the barrel a couple of times and then used  
10      a paper towel and wiped some of the parts off with  
11      it."

12           Your Taurus gun didn't come with a  
13      brush, did it?

14           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

15           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

16       BY MS. BRADY:

17           Q.       And you didn't disassemble the gun and  
18       clean it this way, correct?

19           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

20           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

21       BY MS. BRADY:

22           Q.       Because you didn't know how to clean  
23       your gun, right?

24           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       And you included this -- these couple  
4 of sentences in your statement only because  
5 Detective Schmidt and Forrester told you to, right?

6           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

7           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MS. BRADY:

9           Q.       Now, I'm jumping down to this line  
10 right here. It says, "When I finished cleaning the  
11 gun, I was not sure if I put the gun back together  
12 right. I took the gun out in the country, way out  
13 Cunningham Road to shoot the gun to see if it  
14 worked. I only had about six bullets left in the  
15 clip, and when I shot the gun, it fired, but the  
16 top part of the gun stayed back instead of sliding  
17 back forward to load another shot into the gun. So  
18 I figured that I put the gun together wrong. I  
19 pulled the top back a little and the empty shell  
20 fell out and it went forward and at that time I  
21 went back home and put the gun back under the water  
22 mattress in my room."

23           None of that is true, is it?

24           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       And, again, you included this  
4 description in your statement because Detective  
5 Schmidt and Forrester told you to; isn't that  
6 right?

7           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

8           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MS. BRADY:

10          Q.       Ms. Crabtree, nothing in this statement  
11 that I just read to you is true, is it?

12          MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

13          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MS. BRADY:

15          Q.       And, in fact, you gave this entire  
16 statement the way that you did because officers --  
17 Detective Schmidt and Forrester told you to, right?

18          MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

19          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MS. BRADY:

21          Q.       And you gave this statement because  
22 Detective Schmidt and Forrester threatened to take  
23 your children away from you, right?

24          MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       Detective Schmidt and Forrester told  
4 you that you would never see your children again  
5 unless you complied with them and gave a statement  
6 implicating Patrick Pursley, right?

7           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

8           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MS. BRADY:

10          Q.       And you gave this statement because you  
11 were exhausted and distraught; isn't that right?

12          MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

13          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MS. BRADY:

15          Q.       And a little bit earlier when we looked  
16 at your Grand Jury testimony, you testified -- I'm  
17 sorry, you testified at the Grand Jury similar to  
18 what you testified about -- or you explained in  
19 this statement that I just read to you; is that  
20 right?

21          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

22          Q.       And the Grand Jury testimony that we  
23 looked at a little bit earlier was also untrue  
24 because Detective Schmidt and Forrester told you to

1 adopt this story; is that right?

2 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MS. BRADY:

5 Q. Okay. Do you recall at any point  
6 talking to Prosecutor Switzer about your Grand Jury  
7 testimony?

8 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 MR. HUOTARI: If we are going to start  
10 a new topic, would you mind if we take a  
11 five-minute break?

12 MS. BRADY: Yes.

13 MR. HUOTARI: Thank you.

14 (Recess taken.)

15 BY MS. BRADY:

16 Q. Ms. Crabtree, I just have a couple more  
17 questions for you, then defense counsel is going to  
18 take over the questioning.

19 So to summarize, when you told  
20 Detective Schmidt and Forrester in your statement  
21 that Patrick Pursley killed Andy Ascher, and you  
22 drove the car that got him there, that was false,  
23 wasn't it?

24 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3           Q.       And the reason that you told them that  
4 was because they made you feel pressured; is that  
5 right?

6           A.       I take the Fifth amendment.

7           Q.       And when you testified at the Grand  
8 Jury that Patrick Pursley killed Andy Ascher and  
9 you drove the car that got him there, that was also  
10 false, wasn't it?

11           MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

12           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

13           MS. BRADY: Okay. I don't have any  
14 more questions at this time. Thank you for your  
15 time.

16

17                   EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. IASPARRO:

19           Q.       Hi, Ms. Crabtree. My name is Michael  
20 Iasparro. I represent seven of the retired  
21 Rockford police officers who have been named as  
22 defendants in this lawsuit.

23           A.       Okay.

24           Q.       Ms. Crabtree, are you afraid of Patrick

1 Pursley, as you sit here today?

2 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MR. IASPARRO:

5 Q. Are you taking the Fifth Amendment  
6 because you're afraid of the consequences that  
7 might result from Patrick Pursley?

8 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MR. IASPARRO:

11 Q. Are you afraid of Patrick Pursley  
12 finding out where your children live, Ms. Crabtree?

13 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MR. IASPARRO:

16 Q. Ms. Crabtree, do you recall the  
17 assistant state's attorney named Ann Switzer who  
18 questioned you at Mr. Pursley's trial in 1994?

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 Q. After you were released from prison,  
21 Ms. Crabtree, on the robbery and perjury  
22 convictions back in the 1990s, do you recall  
23 running into Ms. Switzer in an office building in  
24 downtown Rockford?

1 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 Q. Did you used to work in an office  
3 building in downtown Rockford after you were  
4 released from prison?

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. Do you recall having a conversation  
7 with Ms. Switzer at a building in downtown Rockford  
8 after you were released from prison?

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. Isn't it true that you told Ms. Switzer  
11 that you were sorry that you had lied at Patrick  
12 Pursley's trial in 1994?

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 Q. Did you lie at Patrick Pursley's trial  
15 in 1994 when you testified that you and Patrick  
16 Pursley were home the entire evening of April 2,  
17 1993, the night of the Andrew Ascher's murder?

18 MS. BRADY: Object to form.

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MR. IASPARRO:

21 Q. Did you lie at Patrick Pursley's trial  
22 in 1994 when you testified that the police coerced  
23 you on June 10, 1993, in to giving a written  
24 statement implicating Patrick Pursley in the Ascher

1                   murder?

2                   MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

3                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 BY MR. IASPARRO:

5                   Q.        Did you lie at Patrick Pursley's trial  
6                   in 1994 when you testified that your June 23, 1993,  
7                   Grand Jury testimony implicating Patrick Pursley in  
8                   the Ascher murder was false?

9                   MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

10                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

11 BY MR. IASPARRO:

12                  Q.        Ms. Crabtree, when did you first meet  
13                  Patrick Pursley?

14                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

15                  Q.        You had a dating relationship with  
16                  Mr. Pursley; is that correct?

17                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

18                  Q.        Isn't it true that you lived with  
19                  Mr. Pursley at 901 Ashland in Rockford, Illinois?

20                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

21                  Q.        Ms. Crabtree, did Mr. Pursley ever  
22                  threaten to kill you?

23                  MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

24                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. IASPARRO:

2 Q. When is the last time that you spoke to  
3 Patrick Pursley?

4 A. I believe it was in the summer of 2019.

5 Q. Was that an in-person conversation or  
6 via telephone or how did that conversation take  
7 place?

8 A. It was in-person.

9 Q. Where did that conversation take place?

10 A. Outside of my residence.

11 Q. Which was where at the time?

12 A. 1804 Grant Avenue.

13 Q. And what was the purpose of that  
14 conversation, if you recall?

15 A. He was looking to see his daughter.

16 Q. And that would be Nyjah Pursley?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. Did you know that Mr. Pursley was  
19 coming to see Nyjah that day?

20 A. No.

21 Q. And as best that you can recall, what  
22 did he say to you and what did you say to him?

23 A. He asked where she was. I told him I  
24 did not know. And within five minutes Nyjah pulled

1 up in her own vehicle.

2 Q. Did you say anything else to him or did  
3 he say anything else to you during those five  
4 minutes?

5 A. No.

6 Q. And when Nyjah pulled up, what  
7 happened?

8 A. I went inside.

9 Q. Did you have any further conversation  
10 with Mr. Pursley that day?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Did he say anything to you about this  
13 civil lawsuit that he had filed against the City of  
14 Rockford?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Have you had any conversations with  
17 Mr. Pursley about this civil lawsuit?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Do you have any sort of financial  
20 arrangement or agreement with Mr. Pursley with  
21 respect to this civil lawsuit?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Have you seen Mr. Pursley since that  
24 day in the summer of 2019 outside your house as

1 you've described?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Have you spoken to him on the phone or  
4 otherwise since that time?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Does Patrick Pursley currently provide  
7 any financial support to you?

8 A. No.

9 Q. When is the last time that Patrick  
10 Pursley provided any financial support to you?

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 Q. Ms. Crabtree, did you commit a bank  
13 robbery with Patrick Pursley at the First Bank  
14 North in Rockford, Illinois, in May of 1993?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 BY MR. IASPARRO:

18 Q. You plead guilty to that offense,  
19 correct?

20 MR. CONNOR: This is Kevin Connor.  
21 Objection, asked and answered.

22 BY MR. IASPARRO:

23 Q. For the record, what was the answer,  
24 Ms. Crabtree?

1           A.        Can you repeat the question, please.

2           Q.        I think the question was, you plead  
3 guilty to that offense, meaning the First Bank  
4 North robbery in Rockford, which took place, I  
5 think, on May 12, 1993?

6           A.        Yes.

7           Q.        And in pleading guilty to that offense,  
8 you told the Court that you committed it with  
9 Patrick Pursley, correct?

10          A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

11          Q.        Ms. Crabtree, did Patrick Pursley ever  
12 physically abuse you?

13                MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
14 foundation, and assumes facts not in evidence.

15          A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MR. IASPARRO:

17          Q.        Do you recall your parents testifying  
18 at your sentencing hearing back in 1995,  
19 Ms. Crabtree?

20          A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

21          Q.        Isn't it true that your parents  
22 testified regarding their concerns that Mr. Pursley  
23 had or that they had about Mr. Pursley abusing you?

24          A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 Q. The fact of the matter is in 1993 and  
2 1994, you were afraid of Mr. Pursley; isn't that  
3 true?

4 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
5 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MR. IASPARRO:

8 Q. Did Patrick Pursley ever hit you,  
9 Ms. Crabtree?

10 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
11 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 BY MR. IASPARRO:

14 Q. Do you recall going to the emergency  
15 room at Rockford Memorial Hospital on February 22,  
16 1993?

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 Q. Bear with me a second. I'm going to  
19 pull up the document that I would like to show you.

20 Are you able to see the document that  
21 I've just pulled up, Ms. Crabtree?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Okay.

24 MR. IASPARRO: And I think we're on 4

1 is that right, Rachel?

2 MS. BRADY: Yeah, that's right.

3 MR. IASPARRO: I'm going to mark this  
4 as Exhibit 4, Crabtree 4 {sic}.

5 (Deposition Exhibit 4 marked  
6 for identification.)

7 BY MR. IASPARRO:

8 Q. Ms. Crabtree, for the record, this is  
9 RFD Defense Bates No. 7634 through 7636.

10 Ms. Crabtree, do you see at the top of  
11 the first page, which is on the screen in front of  
12 you, it lists your name, Samantha L. Crabtree,  
13 towards the top of that page?

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 Q. Do you see that in the description  
16 narrative section of this police report on the  
17 first page it says, reporting officers were  
18 dispatched to Rockford Memorial Hospital in  
19 reference to a battery. Upon arrival, reporting  
20 officer met with the listed victim, meaning you,  
21 Samantha Crabtree, who related the following story.

22 Do you see that?

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Do you recall talking to Detective

1 Forrester in August of 1993 and telling him that  
2 you had lied to the police who responded to  
3 Rockford Memorial Hospital on February 22, 1993,  
4 about what had happened to you?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MR. IASPARRO:

8 Q. Do you recall telling Detective  
9 Forrester that you lied to the police on  
10 February 22, 1993, about what happened to you  
11 because you were afraid of Patrick Pursley?

12 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
13 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MR. IASPARRO:

16 Q. Do you see that document in front of  
17 you, Ms. Crabtree?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. And we'll mark this as  
20 Exhibit 5. {sic}

21 (Deposition Exhibit 5 marked  
22 for identification.)

23 BY MR. IASPARRO:

24 Q. For the record, this is RFD Defense 266

1 through 269. Do you see your name on that  
2 document, Ms. Crabtree, Samantha Louise Crabtree at  
3 the top?

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 Q. That is your name, correct?

6 MR. CONNOR: I'm going to object to a  
7 lack of foundation. You can answer.

8 MR. IASPARRO: With respect to what her  
9 name is?

10 MR. CONNOR: I'm sorry, with what this  
11 document is.

12 MR. IASPARRO: Right now, I'm just  
13 asking her if that is her name.

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 BY MR. IASPARRO:

16 Q. I'm sorry. You're taking the Fifth  
17 Amendment with respect to whether your name is  
18 Samantha Louise Crabtree?

19 A. My name is Samantha Louise Crabtree,  
20 yes.

21 Q. And your date the birth is 1/1/1969,  
22 correct?

23 A. That is my date of birth, correct.

24 Q. Have you ever seen this document

1 before, Ms. Crabtree?

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. Isn't it true that you spoke to  
4 Detective Howard Forrester on August 5, 1993?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
6 foundation.

7 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MR. IASPARRO:

9 Q. Do you see on this document it says, on  
10 August 5, 1993, 1230 hours, Samantha Crabtree  
11 arrived at the City Detective Division, as  
12 requested. She was placed in an interview room.

13 Do you see that?

14 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

15 Q. That actually happened, right, you  
16 spoke to Detective Forrester on August 5, 1993,  
17 correct?

18 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation,  
19 form.

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 BY MR. IASPARRO:

22 Q. Scroll down to the second page of this  
23 report. First full paragraph beginning with the  
24 word "I", says, I then advised Samantha that I

1 would like the details of the incident, but she had  
2 advised me in an earlier interview that Patrick  
3 Pursley had beat her and had pointed a gun at her  
4 and pulled the trigger but the gun had been  
5 unloaded. She advised that this incident happened  
6 in February of 1993. She was not sure of the exact  
7 date.

8 Samantha stated that Patrick Pursley  
9 had been smoking some crack cocaine, and she did  
10 not want him to do any more, but Patrick wanted to  
11 continue smoking it. Samantha stated that during  
12 the evening hours she took the rest of the cocaine  
13 and also, approximately, \$800 to \$900 and she left.  
14 She stated that the money probably came from  
15 Patrick dealing marijuana on the street. Samantha  
16 stated that she had called Rachel Whitford, and  
17 they had agreed to meet at the Coyote Club.

18 You told Detective Forrester that on  
19 August 5, 1993, isn't that true, Ms. Crabtree?

20 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
21 foundation.

22 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 BY MR. IASPARRO:

24 Q. Scroll down to the third page here.

1 The second full paragraph which reads as follows:  
2  
3 Samantha stated that she returned home at about  
4 dawn the next morning. She stated that she had  
5 thrown the cocaine away, but still had all of the  
money.

6                   Patrick asked Samantha where she had  
7 been, and Samantha told him that she had been at  
8 Rachel's. Patrick told her that he knew that she  
9 had not been there because he had called Rachel and  
10 she had told him that she had not been there.  
11 Patrick then accused her of being with someone  
12 else. Samantha then told Patrick that she had been  
13 at a motel. Samantha stated that Patrick then  
14 started hitting her with his fists and at one point  
15 Samantha stated that she had fallen down and  
16 Patrick kicked her. Patrick then went and got the  
17 money and he left.

18                   You told Detective Forrester that on  
19 August 5, 1993, isn't that true, Ms. Crabtree?

20                   MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
21 foundation.

22                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

23                   MR. CONNOR: So if I could just  
24 interject because I know we want to keep a clear

1 record. I know it was agreed upon at the beginning  
2 of this that all the defendants would join in their  
3 objections. So I'd rather than just parrot what  
4 Ms. Brady is saying, we're going to join in the  
5 objections that she raises at this point.

6 MR. IASPARRO: So for the record,  
7 Ms. Crabtree's attorney is aligning himself with  
8 Mr. Pursley's attorney; is that right?

9 MR. CONNOR: We're going to join her  
10 objections for this line -- I'll say we'll limit it  
11 to the objections of this document going forward.

12 BY MR. IASPARRO:

13 Q. I've pulled up another document. Are  
14 you able to see that on your screen in front of  
15 you?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And we'll mark this as Exhibit 6.

18 (Deposition Exhibit 6 marked  
19 for identification.)

20 BY MR. IASPARRO:

21 Q. For the record, this is Bates stamped  
22 Pursley 14106 and 14107.

23 Ms. Crabtree, on the first page of this  
24 exhibit is that your signature?

1 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 Q. Do you recognize this as a firearm's  
3 transaction record relating to the Taurus 9  
4 millimeter firearm which you purchased at the  
5 Bullet Stop Gun Shop on February 5, 1993?

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 Q. You, in fact, owned a Taurus 9  
8 millimeter in 1993; isn't that true?

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. Ms. Crabtree, I'm going to show you now  
11 what's being marked as Deposition Exhibit 7.

12 (Deposition Exhibit 7 marked  
13 for identification.)

14 BY MR. IASPARRO:

15 Q. For the record, these are photographs  
16 which have been Bates stamped RFD Defense 7563  
17 through 7567.

18 Do you see on the photograph that's  
19 depicted on the first page here, the date 5/12/93?

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 Q. Have you ever seen this photograph  
22 before?

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Isn't it true that you previously

1 identified the person in that photograph at the  
2 counter as Patrick Pursley?

3 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
4 foundation.

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 BY MR. IASPARRO:

7 Q. That is Patrick Pursley robbing the  
8 First Bank North on May 12, 1993, correct?

9 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
10 foundation.

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. IASPARRO:

13 Q. And you previously told the police that  
14 the gray sweatpants that he was wearing in this  
15 photo and wore during the bank robbery were  
16 actually your gray sweatpants, correct?

17 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
18 foundation.

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MR. IASPARRO:

21 Q. And, in fact, Mr. Pursley did wear your  
22 gray sweatpants when he robbed the First Bank North  
23 on May 12, 1993, correct?

24 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,

1 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MR. IASPARRO:

4 Q. I'll scroll down, Ms. Crabtree, so you  
5 can see the rest of the photos in this exhibit.

6 Ms. Crabtree, that's Patrick Pursley in  
7 those photos robbing the First Bank North on  
8 May 12, 1993, correct?

9 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
10 foundation.

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. IASPARRO:

13 Q. And you drove him to and from, the  
14 getaway car, during that robbery, correct?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 BY MR. IASPARRO:

18 Q. Ms. Crabtree, do you know about a man  
19 named Marvin Windham?

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 Q. Have you ever met a man named Marvin  
22 Windham?

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Did you ever have a romantic

1 relationship with Marvin Windham?

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. Did you ever speak to Marvin Windham  
4 about information he provided to the police  
5 regarding the Andrew Ascher murder?

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 Q. Do you have any knowledge of the source  
8 of any information Marvin Windham provided to  
9 police in 1993 regarding Patrick Pursley's  
10 involvement in the Andrew Ascher murder?

11 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 BY MR. IASPARRO:

14 Q. Do you have any knowledge of any  
15 conversations that Marvin Windham had with Patrick  
16 Pursley regarding the Ascher homicide?

17 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

18 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

19 BY MR. IASPARRO:

20 Q. Do you have any knowledge about any  
21 conversations Marvin Windham had with Patrick  
22 Pursley regarding Patrick Pursley's involvement in  
23 the Ascher murder?

24 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MR. IASPARRO:

3           Q.       Do you have any knowledge of any  
4 information that Marvin Windham provided to  
5 Rockford police during a call to Crime Stoppers  
6 regarding the Ascher murder?

7           MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

8           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MR. IASPARRO:

10          Q.       Did you ever see a copy of any written  
11 statement that Marvin Windham provided to police  
12 regarding Patrick Pursley's involvement in the  
13 Ascher homicide?

14          MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

15          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MR. IASPARRO:

17          Q.       Do you know if Marvin Windham provided  
18 a written statement to police before or after your  
19 written statements to police on June 10, 1993?

20          MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
21 foundation.

22          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 BY MR. IASPARRO:

24          Q.       Do you know a man named Lester Brown,

1 also goes by the nickname Latee?

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. Ms. Crabtree, do you have a sister  
4 named Theresa Crabtree?

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. As to whether you have a sister named  
7 Theresa Crabtree?

8 A. I do have a sister named Theresa  
9 Crabtree, yes.

10 Q. When is the last time that you spoke to  
11 her?

12 A. It's been a couple of months.

13 Q. Does she still live in Rockford?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you know where in Rockford that she  
16 lives?

17 A. I don't know her exact address. It is  
18 on the west side of Rockford.

19 Q. Do you know what street that she lives  
20 on?

21 A. I think it's Ashley. It's off of West  
22 State.

23 Q. Are you aware of whether your sister,  
24 Theresa Crabtree, used to date a man named Lester

1 Brown?

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. Have you ever met a man named Lester  
4 Brown?

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. Have you ever spoken to a man named  
7 Lester Brown about the First Bank North in  
8 Rockford, Illinois?

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 Q. Did you ever speak to Lester Brown  
11 about the Andrew Ascher homicide?

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 Q. Did you ever speak to Lester Brown  
14 about any information that he had about who  
15 committed that murder?

16 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. IASPARRO:

19 Q. Did you ever speak to Lester Brown  
20 about any information that he provided to police  
21 regarding Patrick Pursley's involvement in the  
22 Ascher murder?

23 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation,  
24 form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MR. IASPARRO:

3           Q.       Do you have any knowledge of the source  
4 of any information Lester Brown provided to police  
5 regarding Patrick Pursley's involvement in the  
6 Andrew Ascher murder?

7           MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

8           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MR. IASPARRO:

10          Q.       Do you know whether Lester Brown  
11 provided a written statement to police regarding  
12 his knowledge of Patrick Pursley's involvement in  
13 the Ascher murder?

14          MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

15          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MR. IASPARRO:

17          Q.       Do you have any knowledge regarding the  
18 circumstances surrounding Lester Brown's  
19 cooperation with police back in 1993 or 1994?

20          MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
21 foundation.

22          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 BY MR. IASPARRO:

24          Q.       Ms. Crabtree, did you have any

1 conversations with Lester Brown during summer of  
2 1993 about him committing a bank robbery at the  
3 First Bank North in Rockford, Illinois?

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 Q. Do you have any knowledge of Lester  
6 Brown committing a bank robbery at the First Bank  
7 North in Rockford, Illinois, in 1993?

8 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MR. IASPARRO:

11 Q. Do you have any knowledge of your  
12 sister, Theresa Crabtree, being involved in a bank  
13 robbery at the First Bank North in Rockford,  
14 Illinois, in 1993?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 BY MR. IASPARRO:

18 Q. Did you have any conversations with  
19 your sister, Theresa Crabtree, at any time  
20 regarding she and Lester Brown committing the bank  
21 robbery at the First Bank North in Rockford?

22 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 BY MR. IASPARRO:

1           Q.       Do you know a man named Owen Bell,  
2 Senior, Ms. Crabtree?

3           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

4           Q.       Do you recall ever meeting anybody by  
5 the name of Owen Bell, Senior?

6           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

7           Q.       Are you aware of any information that  
8 Owen Bell, Senior provided at any time to police  
9 regarding his knowledge of Patrick Pursley's  
10 involvement in the Ascher murder?

11          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

12          Q.       At any time did you speak to a man  
13 named Owen Bell, Senior about Patrick Pursley?

14          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

15          Q.       Ms. Crabtree, after the First Bank  
16 North robbery on May 12, 1993, did you use proceeds  
17 from that robbery to purchase a Beretta 9  
18 millimeter firearm?

19                    MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
20 foundation.

21          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MR. IASPARRO:

23          Q.       Did you purchase a Beretta 9 millimeter  
24 firearm in 1993?

1 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 Q. I'm pulling up another document. I  
3 think this is going to be Exhibit 8.

4 (Deposition Exhibit 8 marked  
5 for identification.)

6 MR. IASPARRO: For the record, this is  
7 Bates No. RFD Defense 235.

8 BY MR.IASPARRO:

9 Q. In the middle of the page there where  
10 I've scrolled down, is that your signature,  
11 Ms. Crabtree?

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 Q. Did you purchase a Beretta 9 millimeter  
14 firearm from the Bullet Stop Gun Shop on May 20,  
15 1993?

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 Q. Ms. Crabtree, do you recall Rockford  
18 police officers searching your apartment on  
19 June 10, 1993?

20 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MR. TASPARRO:

23 Q. Isn't it true that you went to your  
24 apartment at 901 Ashland on June 10, 1993, with

1 some police detectives?

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 Q. Isn't it true that Detective Scott read  
4 a copy of a search warrant for your apartment to  
5 you that day?

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 Q. Isn't it true on that day that you  
8 actually assisted the detectives in locating at  
9 least one firearm in your apartment at 901 Ashland?

10 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. IASPARRO:

13 Q. In fact, there were two firearms  
14 recovered from your apartment at 901 Ashland that  
15 day, correct?

16 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. IASPARRO:

19 Q. And isn't it true that later on that  
20 day at the Rockford Police Department you  
21 identified the Taurus 9 millimeter firearm that had  
22 been recovered from your apartment as the firearm  
23 that Patrick Pursley used in the murder of Andrew  
24 Ascher?

1 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MR. IASPARRO:

4 Q. Ms. Crabtree, prior to June 10, 1993,  
5 to the best of your knowledge, had you ever met a  
6 detective named Mark Schmidt from the Rockford  
7 Police Department?

8 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
9 foundation.

10 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

11 BY MR. IASPARRO:

12 Q. To the best of your knowledge, prior to  
13 June 10, 1993, had you ever met a detective named  
14 Howard Forrester?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
16 foundation.

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. IASPARRO:

19 Q. On June 10, 1993, did you know that  
20 Rockford police officers were conducting  
21 surveillance outside of your apartment?

22 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
23 foundation.

24 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. IASPARRO:

2 Q. While leaving your apartment that --  
3 shortly thereafter learning that you were being  
4 followed by Rockford police officers?

5 MS. BRADY: Michael, I didn't catch  
6 that. You broke up a little bit. Can you ask that  
7 question again?

8 MR. IASPARRO: Sure.

9 BY MR. IASPARRO:

10 Q. Do you recall on June 10, 1993, during  
11 the day leaving your apartment with Patrick Pursley  
12 and learning shortly thereafter that you were being  
13 followed by Rockford police officers?

14 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 MR. MOGBANA: This is Ifeanyi for the  
17 City. Maybe it's on my end, but it appears that  
18 the question doesn't fully come out before the  
19 objection comes in, and I hope the court reporter  
20 is not having any problems with that.

21 Ms. Court Reporter, are you having  
22 problems getting all of the questions before the  
23 objections come in?

24 THE COURT REPORTER: I am not having

1 any problems.

2 BY MR. IASPARRO:

3 Q. I'm going to show you a couple more  
4 documents, Ms. Crabtree. Do you see a document  
5 that is up on your screen in front of you?

6 A. Yes.

7 MR. IASPARRO: And for the record, I  
8 think this is going to be Exhibit 9.

9 (Deposition Exhibit 9 marked  
10 for identification.)

11 BY MR. IASPARRO:

12 Q. These are RFD Defense 128 and 129,  
13 starting with RFD Defense 128.

14 Is that your signature at the bottom  
15 right-hand corner of the page, Ms. Crabtree?

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 Q. On the next page of the exhibit, RFD  
18 Defense 129, is that your signature at the bottom  
19 right-hand corner of that sheet, Ms. Crabtree?

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 Q. Detectives Forrester and Schmidt  
22 advised you of your Miranda Rights on June 10,  
23 1993, correct?

24 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,

1 foundation.

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MR. IASPARRO:

4 Q. And you voluntarily agreed to talk to  
5 them during the course of that afternoon and  
6 evening, correct?

7 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
8 foundation. Calls for a legal conclusion.

9 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MR. IASPARRO:

11 Q. Do you recall executing a consent to  
12 search form so that Rockford police officers could  
13 go back to your apartment at 901 Ashland on  
14 June 10, '93, and recover a briefcase?

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 Q. Here's another document that should be  
17 in front of you now.

18 MR. IASPARRO: We're going to mark this  
19 Exhibit 10, Ms. Crabtree.

20 (Deposition Exhibit 10 marked  
21 for identification.)

22 BY MR. IASPARRO:

23 Q. For the record, this is Bates No. RFD  
24 Defense 130.

1                   Ms. Crabtree, is that your signature on  
2 the bottom right-hand corner of that document?

3                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

4                   Q.        In fact, you did grant consent to  
5 search your apartment at 901 Ashland, apartment  
6 number two, during the evening hours of June 10,  
7 1993, correct?

8                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

9                   Q.        Ms. Crabtree, do you recall being  
10 released from the Winnebago County Jail on July 28,  
11 1993?

12                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

13                  Q.        Are you aware of the circumstances  
14 which lead to your release from the jail on that  
15 date?

16                  MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

17                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. IASPARRO:

19                  Q.        Do you know if Detective Forrester  
20 arranged with the state's attorney's office for  
21 your release from jail that day?

22                  MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
23 foundation.

24                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. IASPARRO:

2 Q. You had been charged with robbery with  
3 respect to the First Bank North robbery as of that  
4 time. Would you agree with that?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection to form.

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MR. IASPARRO:

8 Q. Do you recall going to the detective  
9 division and meeting with Detective Forrester on  
10 August 5, 1993?

11 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
12 foundation.

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MR. IASPARRO:

15 Q. Isn't it true that a tan Chevy  
16 Celebrity, which you owned, was released to you by  
17 Detective Forrester on August 5, 1993?

18 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

19 Q. Ms. Crabtree, did you execute an  
20 affidavit with respect to the Ascher homicide and  
21 Mr. Pursley on August 6, 1993?

22 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 Q. Did you ever have any conversations  
24 with Patrick Pursley about an affidavit that you

1                   executed on August 6, 1993?

2                   MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
3 foundation.

4                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MR. IASPARRO:

6                   Q.        Did Patrick Pursley provide you with  
7 any language to use in the affidavit that you  
8 executed on August 6, 1993?

9                   MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
10 foundation.

11                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. IASPARRO:

13                  Q.        Prior to August 6, 1993, had you ever  
14 drafted an affidavit before?

15                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

16                  Q.        Did you know how to prepare an  
17 affidavit as of August 6, 1993?

18                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

19                  Q.        Did anybody help you draft the  
20 affidavit which you executed on August 6, 1993 with  
21 respect to Patrick Pursley?

22                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

23                  Q.        Did you write that affidavit?

24                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 Q. Ms. Crabtree, has a document appeared  
2 on the screen in front of you?

3 A. Yes, it has.

4 MS. BRADY: And we'll mark this as  
5 Exhibit 11.

6 (Deposition Exhibit 11 marked  
7 for identification.)

8 BY MR. IASPARRO:

9 Q. Which for the record is RFD Defendants  
10 5246 through 5254.

11 Ms. Crabtree, have you ever seen this  
12 document before?

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 Q. Isn't this true that this is an  
15 affidavit that you executed on August 6, 1993?

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 Q. Going to the last page of this exhibit,  
18 Ms. Crabtree, bottom right-hand corner of RFD  
19 Defendants 5254, is that your signature,  
20 Ms. Crabtree?

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 Q. Is this document in your handwriting?

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Do you know who the notary public is

1 with respect to this document, a person named Carol  
2 McKenzie?

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 MR. IASPARRO: I think it might make  
5 sense to take maybe a 10-minute break right now. I  
6 don't think I have a whole lot more to ask you,  
7 Ms. Crabtree, but I would like a few minutes to  
8 gather my thoughts and check my notes, if that's  
9 okay with everybody.

10 THE WITNESS: Yes.

11 MS. BRADY: Works for us.

12 MR. CONNOR: Works for us.

13 MR. IASPARRO: Okay. Thank you.

14 (Recess taken.)

15 MR. IASPARRO: Back on the record.

16 Ms. Crabtree, I appreciate your time  
17 today. I don't have any more questions for you  
18 right now.

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20 MR. IASPARRO: I think Mr. Pottinger or  
21 Mr. Huotari may have some questions for you.

22

23 EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. POTTINGER:

1           Q.       Ms. Crabtree, I do have a few  
2        questions. My name is R.C. Pottinger. I'm a  
3        lawyer. I represent the estate the Howard  
4        Forrester, Gary Reffett, and David Ekedahl.

5               Again, you did recall -- I think  
6        earlier you said that you do recall Detective  
7        Forrester's name; is that true?

8           A.        Name is familiar, yes.

9           Q.        Okay. But you don't have any specific  
10       recollection of Detective Forrester as you sit  
11       here?

12          A.        Unfortunately, no.

13          Q.        I know that you haven't read the  
14        complaint, but there has been a lawsuit that's been  
15        filed by Patrick Pursley and one of the allegations  
16        in that lawsuit was that on April 2, 1993,  
17        approximately, 10:00 p.m., 22-year-old Andrew  
18        Ascher was shot and killed while sitting in the  
19        driver's seat of his Explorer.

20               Ascher's girlfriend, 25-year-old  
21        Rebecca George, was sitting next to him on the  
22        front passenger seat. And that event happened at  
23        2709 Silent Wood Trail in Rockford, Illinois.

24               Do you have any personal knowledge of

1 the allegation made in the complaint with regard to  
2 that alleged incident?

3 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

4 Q. Are you aware of any facts or  
5 circumstances concerning that allegation?

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation,  
8 form, and calls for a legal conclusion.

9 BY MR. POTTINGER:

10 Q. In April of 1993, Patrick Pursley was a  
11 27-year-old resident of the City of Rockford who  
12 lived with 24-year old Samantha Crabtree, and he  
13 had a 10-year-old son and a four-year-old daughter.

14 Do you have any personal knowledge of  
15 that allegation?

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 Q. Are you aware of any facts or  
18 circumstances concerning that allegation?

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 Q. What is Patrick Pursley's relationship  
21 with your -- with his daughter Nyjah?

22 (Discussion off the record; technical  
23 difficulty.)

24 A. I need you to repeat the question.

1 BY MR. POTTINGER:

2 Q. Are you aware of Patrick Pursley's  
3 relationship with his daughter Nyjah, your daughter  
4 Nyjah?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection --

6 A. That question was garbled. I can't  
7 hear the whole question. It gets kind of garbled  
8 towards the end. If you could repeat it one more  
9 time.

10 BY MR. POTTINGER:

11 Q. Are you aware of Mr. Pursley's  
12 relationship with your daughter Nyjah?

13 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

14 MR. CONNOR: Can you clarify? Like  
15 right now, you mean? Is she aware now or just  
16 generally?

17 BY MR. POTTINGER:

18 Q. Generally.

19 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 Q. There is an allegation in the complaint  
21 that Patrick Pursley had no connection whatsoever  
22 to Andrew Ascher. Do you have any personal  
23 knowledge of that allegation?

24 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MR. POTTINGER:

3           Q.       There is an allegation in the complaint  
4 that on the night of April 2, 1993, Patrick Pursley  
5 was home with you, his son Anthony, and Anthony's  
6 young uncle Aaron. Do you have any personal  
7 knowledge of that allegation?

8           MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

9           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

10 BY MR. POTTINGER:

11          Q.       There is an allegation in the complaint  
12 that Detective Forrester and Detective Schmidt  
13 brought you to the identification unit at the  
14 Rockford Police Station to meet with defendant,  
15 also an officer, Houde, H-o-u-d-e. It is alleged  
16 that the officers coerced you into falsely claiming  
17 that on the night of Mr. Ascher's murder on  
18 April 2, 1993, that Patrick Pursley wore clothing  
19 and carried the 9 millimeter Taurus gun that had  
20 been recovered from your apartment.

21           Do you have any personal knowledge of  
22 that allegation?

23           MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

24           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. POTTINGER:

2 Q. It has been alleged that the  
3 defendants, which would be including but not  
4 limited to Detective Schmidt and Detective  
5 Forrester, typed a false statement for you  
6 implicating Patrick Pursley in Mr. Ascher's murder  
7 and caused you to sign.

8 Do you have any personal knowledge of  
9 that allegation?

10 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. POTTINGER:

13 Q. It has also been alleged that the  
14 defendant officers, which would include -- in the  
15 case, interrogated you for more than 10 hours; is  
16 that true?

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 Q. Do you have any personal knowledge of  
19 that allegation?

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 Q. It's also been alleged that the  
22 defendant officers in this case knew that the  
23 statement they obtained from you was false and that  
24 your false statement was used to initiate criminal

1 charges against Patrick Pursley to secure this  
2 indictment.

3 Do you have any personal knowledge of  
4 that allegation?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

6 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MR. POTTINGER:

8 Q. It's also been alleged that on  
9 August 6, 1993, that you signed an affidavit  
10 recanting your prior statements and in that  
11 affidavit explained that you had been interrogated  
12 for more than 10 hours, were pregnant, tired, sick,  
13 and emotionally weak at the time. And that you  
14 adopted the detective's false story when you  
15 claimed that Patrick Pursley was involved in Andrew  
16 Ascher's murder because you were intimidated and  
17 coerced.

18 Do you have any personal knowledge of  
19 facts to support that allegation?

20 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MR. POTTINGER:

23 Q. It's also been alleged that when you  
24 were at the police station -- there was a point in

1 time when you were at the police state in June of  
2 1993, that the defendant officers, including  
3 Forrester and Schmidt, intimidated and coerced you,  
4 threatened to separate you from your children, fed  
5 you details about the Ascher murder that you did  
6 not previously know and coerced you into  
7 fabricating a story implicating Patrick Pursley in  
8 the murder.

9 Do you have any personal knowledge or  
10 aware of any facts to support that allegation?

11 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
12 foundation.

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MR. POTTINGER:

15 Q. It's alleged in the complaint that the  
16 defendants, including Detective Forrester and  
17 Detective Schmidt, brought you in the back of a  
18 police car to the area where Andrew Ascher was  
19 killed and thereafter coerced you into fabricating  
20 a story about driving Patrick Pursley to and from  
21 the scene of Andrew Ascher's murder on the night  
22 that he was killed, which again was April 2, 1993.

23 Do you have any personal knowledge or  
24 aware of any facts that would support that

1 allegation?

2 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
3 foundation.

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 MR. POTTINGER: I don't have anything  
6 further.

7

8 EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. HUOTARI:

10 Q. Ms. Crabtree, good afternoon. My name  
11 is Joel Huotari. I represent a handful of police  
12 officers who have been sued in this case. I'm  
13 going to give you their names and just ask you if  
14 you remember any of them having any role in the  
15 investigation. Okay?

16 The first name is Christine Bishop. Do  
17 you recall having any interaction with Christine  
18 Bishop whatsoever?

19 A. No.

20 Q. How about Jim Barton?

21 A. No.

22 Q. And Bruce Scott?

23 A. No.

24 Q. How about Doug Williams?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Or a Stephen Pirages?

3 A. No.

4 Q. None of those officers were involved in  
5 your interrogation about the bank robbery or the  
6 Ascher homicide, were they?

7 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

8 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

9 BY MR. HUOTARI:

10 Q. Do you recall whether any of those  
11 folks interrogated you in this case?

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 Q. You don't contend that any of those  
14 officers in any way coerced your testimony about  
15 Patrick Pursley's role in any crimes, do you?

16 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. HUOTARI:

19 Q. Do you deny that Patrick Pursley  
20 admitted to robbing the Burger King on Alburn  
21 Street on April 15, 1993?

22 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation,  
23 form.

24 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. HUOTARI:

2 Q. You don't deny that Patrick Pursley  
3 admitted to robbing the First North Bank in  
4 Rockford on May 12, 1993, do you?

5 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation,  
6 form.

7 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MR. HUOTARI:

9 Q. Do you deny that Patrick shot Andy  
10 Ascher on April 2, 1993?

11 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

12 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

13 BY MR. HUOTARI:

14 Q. You gave the police statements about  
15 the Andrew Ascher murder, the bank robbery, and the  
16 Burger King robbery, did you not?

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 Q. Did you lie to the police when you gave  
19 them those statements?

20 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

21 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

22 BY MR. HUOTARI:

23 Q. Do you recall, Ms. Crabtree, ever  
24 having a gun getting worked on in order to make it

1 untraceable?

2 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
3 foundation.

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 BY MR. HUOTARI:

6 Q. Did Patrick Pursley ever ask you to  
7 take a gun in to have it worked on to make it  
8 untraceable?

9 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
10 foundation.

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 BY MR. HUOTARI:

13 Q. Do you recall when Patrick Pursley  
14 learned that you had given statements to the police  
15 implicating him in the murder of Andrew Ascher?

16 MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

17 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

18 BY MR. HUOTARI:

19 Q. Do you recall what Patrick Pursley said  
20 to you about the fact that you had given a  
21 statement to the police implicating him in that  
22 murder?

23 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

24 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. HUOTARI:

2 Q. Did he demand that you retract the  
3 statement?

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 Q. Did he threaten you or your children?

6 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

7 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MR. HUOTARI:

9 Q. Do you recall hanging out with a Marvin  
10 Windham in 1993, also known as Maim (phonetic)?

11 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

12 Q. Did you and Marvin have a plan to frame  
13 Patrick for murder to get Patrick out of the  
14 picture?

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 Q. Did you use the police and their  
17 investigation into Patrick as a way for you and  
18 Marvin to get Pursley out of the picture?

19 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

20 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

21 BY MR. HUOTARI:

22 Q. Did Pursley ever complain to you about  
23 a Crime Stoppers informant that had implicated him  
24 in crimes?

1 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

2 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MR. HUOTARI:

4 Q. And did Pursley ever ask you to work  
5 with others to identify those informants or their  
6 locations so that Patrick Pursley could retaliate  
7 against them?

8 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
9 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

10 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

11 BY MR. HUOTARI:

12 Q. Did Patrick Pursley ask you to give  
13 Lester Brown, also known as Latee, information  
14 about Marvin Windham?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 BY MR. HUOTARI:

18 Q. Did Patrick Pursley ever ask you to  
19 give information to Owen Bell, Senior about the  
20 location of Marvin Windham?

21 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

22 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 BY MR. HUOTARI:

24 Q. Did Patrick Pursley ever advocate for a

1 race war or talk about his desire to kill white  
2 people in your presence?

3 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
4 foundation.

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 BY MR. HUOTARI:

7 Q. Ms. Crabtree, your testimony has  
8 vacillated in the past about your whereabouts on  
9 April 2, 1993. Some of your statements indicated  
10 that you were driving around with Patrick Pursley,  
11 other statements indicate that you were at home  
12 that night with your family the entire evening.

13 As you sit here today, do you recall  
14 the events of April 2, 1993, and your whereabouts?

15 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

16 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

17 BY MR. HUOTARI:

18 Q. Okay. And the last question that I  
19 have for you is an open-ended one: Can you  
20 describe for me your relationship with Patrick  
21 Pursley today and how you feel about him?

22 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

23 Q. Has anybody contacted you on his  
24 behalf -- when was the last time that you talked to

1 Patrick? You said it was about a year ago?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. That was when he came to see Nyjah at  
4 your house?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Prior to then, when was the last time  
7 that you'd spoken to him?

8 A. Probably -- it was probably maybe a  
9 year before that.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And I was picking Nyjah up from his  
12 apartment.

13 Q. And did you have any communications  
14 directly with Patrick Pursley at that time?

15 A. The communication that I had with  
16 Patrick Pursley at that time was, hello, good-bye.  
17 It was a short conversation. I was just picking up  
18 my daughter. That was the only communication at  
19 that time.

20 Q. Has he or anyone on his behalf, whether  
21 it's your daughter or a lawyer, a friend, has  
22 anybody contacted you at any point to encourage you  
23 to testify one way or the other on behalf of  
24 Patrick?

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment, please.

2           MR. HUOTARI: Thank you very much. I  
3 appreciate your cooperation.

4           THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5           MR. IASPARRO: Kevin, this is Michael.  
6 I have a couple of follow-ups.

7

8                   EXAMINATION

9           BY MR. IASPARRO:

10          Q.       Ms. Crabtree, I think just two  
11 follow-up questions, have you at any time had any  
12 conversations with any of the lawyers from the law  
13 firm of Lovey and Lovey regarding Mr. Pursley or  
14 this civil lawsuit?

15          A.       I'm sorry, Michael. Could you repeat  
16 that question?

17          Q.       Sure. What I want to know is whether  
18 you at any time had any conversations with any  
19 lawyers from the law firm Lovey and Lovey regarding  
20 Mr. Pursley or this civil lawsuit?

21          A.       No.

22          Q.       And similar question, did you at any  
23 time have any conversations with any lawyers from  
24 the law firm of Jenner and Block with respect to

1 Mr. Pursley or anything relating to Mr. Pursley?

2 A. No.

3 MR. IASPARRO: Thank you.

4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5

6 EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. MOGBANA:

8 Q. Ms. Crabtree, my name is Ifeanyi, and I  
9 represent the city. I just have one question.

10 Do you know of an individual named  
11 Charlene Getty?

12 A. No.

13 MR. MOGBANA: I don't have any other  
14 questions. Thank you.

15

16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. POTTINGER:

18 Q. Just a quick follow up. With regard to  
19 the -- Mr. Huotari's questions, he asked, you had  
20 two conversations, one a few months ago, I guess,  
21 or a year ago and then a prior one. Both with  
22 regard to Patrick Pursley and in the exchange of  
23 your daughter at either your house or the  
24 apartment.

1                   Prior to that, could you take me back  
2 in time to other conversations that you had with  
3 Mr. Pursley?

4                   A.        I can't recall there were any  
5 conversations with Patrick Pursley.

6                   Q.        Can you generally -- so when prior to  
7 those two incidents where you were exchanging  
8 Nyjah, when did you -- when, if any, conversations  
9 did you have with Patrick Pursley, let's say, after  
10 your trial testimony back in 1994?

11                  MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
12 foundation.

13                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 BY MR. POTTINGER:

15                  Q.        So you will not -- just to be clear, I  
16 understand you're taking the Fifth. You will  
17 refuse to answer any questions with regard to  
18 conversations that you had with Patrick Pursley  
19 about your trial testimony up until the very brief  
20 conversations that you had with him in connection  
21 with the exchange of your daughter; is that  
22 correct?

23                  MR. CONNOR: Could we have just a  
24 moment, Mr. Pottinger?

1                   MR. POTTINGER: Sure.

2                   MR. CONNOR: Thank you.

3                   (Discussion was had off the record.)

4                   MR. CONNOR: Thank you very much,  
5 counsel. We are back. Ask your question again,  
6 please.

7 BY MR. POTTINGER:

8                   Q.        Since you gave your trial testimony  
9 back in 1994 at the trial of Patrick Pursley and up  
10 until the two brief exchanges and conversations  
11 that you had that you previously described in this  
12 deposition, what other communication, if any, have  
13 you had with Patrick Pursley between those two  
14 periods?

15                  A.        I was incarcerated until 1997, and we  
16 had mail correspondence at that point. But after  
17 '97, I had no communication with him whatsoever.

18                  Q.        So that I understand, from 1994, that's  
19 when you testified at the trial and ultimately  
20 Mr. Pursley was found guilty, and then you were  
21 incarcerated in 1997; is that correct?

22                  A.        Until 1997.

23                  Q.        So from 1994 until 1997, until you were  
24 released from the Department of Corrections, you

1 had mail correspondence only with Mr. Pursley?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And since your release from the  
4 Department of Corrections in 1997 and up until the  
5 two brief exchanges that you earlier described, you  
6 had no communication whatsoever with Mr. Pursley;  
7 is that correct?

8 A. That's correct.

9 MR. POTTINGER: Nothing further.

10 MR. HUOTARI: If I may, very briefly,  
11 Ms. Crabtree. This is Joel Huotari again.

12

13 EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. HUOTARI:

15 Q. What I'm trying to piece together is  
16 how the relationship with Patrick changed. After  
17 the trial, he gets convicted, you're incarcerated  
18 for a number of years, you're writing back and  
19 forth, right?

20 MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

21 BY MR. HUOTARI:

22 Q. You're exchanging written  
23 correspondence during those years when you are both  
24 incarcerated, correct?

1           A.       From the years of the time of my  
2 incarceration until 1997, yes, it was mail  
3 correspondence.

4           Q.       It was 1993 until 1997?

5           A.       I wasn't incarcerated until 1995.

6           Q.       I'm sorry. '95. So prior to that, you  
7 had been going to visit Patrick Pursley when he was  
8 in jail from '93 until '97?

9           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

10          Q.       So some of the prison letters that you  
11 and Patrick were exchanging in 1993 were talking  
12 about getting married and raising a family  
13 together, and obviously, you never did get married  
14 to Patrick; is that right?

15           MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

16          A.       No.

17 BY MR. HUOTARI:

18          Q.       No, you did not marry at any point?

19          A.       No, I did not marry Patrick Pursley.

20          Q.       And when did that plan change? When  
21 did you decide it wasn't meant to be; you're not  
22 going to end up together?

23           MS. BRADY: Objection, form.

24          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MR. HUOTARI:

2 Q. Was there a particular event or  
3 conversation that caused you to call it off and go  
4 your separate ways?

5 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

6 Q. Do you recall receiving letters from  
7 Patrick Pursley when he was arrested, and this was  
8 in 1993 before he went to trial, where he made  
9 certain threats to you if you didn't retract the  
10 statements that you'd given to the police?

11 MS. BRADY: Objection, form,  
12 foundation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 MR. HUOTARI: Thank you, Ms. Crabtree.  
15 That's all that I have for you.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 MS. BRADY: Anything else from defense?

18 MR. POTTINGER: Not from my point of  
19 view.

20 MR. IASPARRO: None from me.

21 MR. HUOTARI: Nothing.

22 MS. BRADY: Okay.

23

24

1 EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. BRADY:

3 Q. Ms. Crabtree, I just have a couple of  
4 follow-ups.

5 So the first thing that I want to ask  
6 you about is I'm going to show you an exhibit on  
7 this screen. Can you see this on your screen?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. So we're going to call this Exhibit --  
10 I think this is 12.

11 MS. BRADY: Is that right, Michael?

12 MR. IASPARRO: Yes.

13 (Deposition Exhibit 12 marked  
14 for identification.)

15 BY MS. BRADY:

16 Q. This looks to me like a letter from you  
17 to Patrick Pursley from June 22, 1993. I'm going  
18 to scroll down. This is a five-page document  
19 starting at Pursley 12134. I'm just scrolling  
20 through the pages right now.

21 A. Yes, I see that.

22 Q. Is this a letter from you to Patrick?

23 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

24 Q. Is this your handwriting?

1 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 Q. I want to show you now what we'll call  
3 Exhibit 13. This is a four-page document starting  
4 at Bates labeled Pursley 3093.

5 (Deposition Exhibit 13 marked  
6 for identification.)

7 BY MS. BRADY:

8 Q. Can you see that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I'm going to flip through the pages  
11 just so you can take a look. Is that your  
12 signature there at the bottom?

13 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

14 Q. This is a statement that looks like you  
15 may have given or were encouraged to give to  
16 Detective Schmidt and Forrester about a robbery at  
17 the First Bank North in Rockford, and I think  
18 counsel for the defendants asked you a couple of  
19 questions about this.

20 So Detectives Schmidt and Forrester  
21 asked you about the robbery at the First Bank North  
22 in Rockford on June 10, 1993, didn't they?

23 MR. IASPARRO: Objection, form.

24 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

1 BY MS. BRADY:

2 Q. Isn't it true that they told you that  
3 they had evidence against you on the bank robbery  
4 and they used it as a way to extract false  
5 statements against Patrick Pursley on the murder?

6 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

7 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

8 BY MS. BRADY:

9 Q. And you did ultimately get a deal on  
10 the charges for bank robbery in exchange for your  
11 statement against Patrick Pursley on the Ascher  
12 murder, right?

13 MR. IASPARRO: Object to form and  
14 foundation.

15 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

16 BY MS. BRADY:

17 Q. I'm going to show you one more exhibit.  
18 This is 14.

19 (Deposition Exhibit 14 marked  
20 for identification.)

21 BY MS. BRADY:

22 Q. This is a two-page document starting at  
23 the Bates label RFD Defense 7632. Can you see this  
24 document on your screen?

1           A.       Yes.

2           Q.       I'm going to flip through both pages so  
3 you can take a look.

4                   Do you recall giving this statement to  
5 Rockford police on November 6, 1991?

6           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

7           Q.       Isn't it true that in the early 1990s  
8 when you experienced domestic violence that you  
9 called the police for help?

10          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

11          Q.       All right. And as reflected in this  
12 report that's Exhibit 14, you were once abused by a  
13 person name Lyle Eddy; is that right?

14          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

15          Q.       And you called the police when Lyle  
16 Eddy hurt you, right?

17          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

18          Q.       And you never called the police about  
19 Patrick Pursley hurting you; is that right?

20          A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

21          Q.       And if/when a Rockford detective took a  
22 statement from you about Patrick Pursley abusing  
23 you or threatening you with physical violence, that  
24 statement was not true, was it?

1                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

2                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

3 BY MS. BRADY:

4                   Q.        Isn't it true that Patrick Pursley was  
5 not the person who abused you?

6                   MR. IASPARRO: Object to form.

7                   A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

8                   MS. BRADY: Okay. I do not have any  
9 other questions. I think we're all done.

10                  MR. HUOTARI: Very briefly. This is  
11 Joel Huotari speaking.

12

13                   EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. HUOTARI:

15                  Q.        Ms. Crabtree, in 1993, did you know  
16 that Patrick Pursley was a member of the Gangster  
17 Disciples street gang?

18                  MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

19                  A.        I take the Fifth Amendment.

20 BY MR. HUOTARI:

21                  Q.        And did any of the members of the  
22 Gangster Disciples street gang ever contact you  
23 about the statements that you gave against Patrick?

24                  MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

1           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

2 BY MR. HUOTARI:

3           Q.       Were you ever threatened by anyone with  
4 the Gangster Disciples?

5           MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

6           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

7 BY MR. HUOTARI:

8           Q.       Were you ever afraid that anybody  
9 associated with the Gangster Disciples would  
10 retaliate against you for taking a position  
11 contrary to Patrick Pursley's interests?

12           MS. BRADY: Objection, foundation.

13           A.       I take the Fifth Amendment.

14           MR. HUOTARI: Okay. Thank you again.  
15 That is all.

16           THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17           MS. BRADY: All right. I think that  
18 you are done.

19           MR. POTTINGER: I do have a follow-up  
20 question.

21

22                   EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. POTTINGER:

24           Q.       At any time in your life, prior to,

1 let's say, December 1994, sometime after the trial  
2 of Patrick Pursley, had you ever suffered or been a  
3 victim of domestic abuse by anybody?

4 A. I take the Fifth Amendment.

5 MR. POTTINGER: That's all that I have.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 MS. BRADY: Anybody else?

8 MR. IASPARRO: Not me.

9 MS. BRADY: Ms. Crabtree, now you're  
10 done. Thank you so much for your time and for  
11 being here with us today.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

13 MS. BRADY: We don't need a copy at  
14 this time.

15 MR. IASPARRO: Yes, I would like a  
16 copy.

17 MR. CONNOR: Ms. Crabtree's attorney  
18 would like one.

19 MR. HUOTARI: If you could send me a  
20 copy electronically, that would be great. This is  
21 Joel speaking.

22 MR. BHAVE: This is Sunil for the ISP  
23 defendants with the attorney general's office, we  
24 would like a copy, electronic PDF with the

1 exhibits.

2 MR. HUOTARI: And how are the exhibits  
3 going to be handled? Will they be emailed to the  
4 court reporter?

5 MS. BRADY: I'll email or upload  
6 through the Planet Depos link the exhibits that I  
7 introduced.

8 MR. IASPARRO: I'll do the same thing  
9 with ours.

10 MR. POTTINGER: This is Robert  
11 Pottinger. I'll take a copy.

12 MR. MOGBANA: This is Ifeanyi Mogbana,  
13 I'll take a copy too.

14 MR. IASPARRO: I think that I said that  
15 I want one. Electronic, please.

16 (Proceeding concluded at 12:55 p.m.)

17

18

19

20

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23

24

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
2 ) ss.  
3 ROCK ISLAND COUNTY)

4 I, KONNI L. STAPF, a Certified Shorthand  
5 Reporter in and for the States of Illinois, Iowa,  
6 and Arizona, do hereby certify that the facts as  
7 stated in the caption hereto are true; that the  
8 witness named on the face sheet was by me sworn to  
9 testify to the truth and nothing but the truth  
10 concerning the matters in controversy in this  
cause; that said witness was thereupon examined  
under oath and the examination reduced to writing  
under my supervision, consisting of the foregoing  
pages, and the computer-aided transcript is a true  
record of the testimony given by said witness and  
all objections made.

11 I further certify that I am neither  
12 attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed  
13 by any of the parties to the action in which this  
14 deposition is taken; and, further, that I am not a  
relative or employee of any attorney or counsel  
employed by the parties hereto or financially  
interested in the action.

16 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my  
17 hand this 29th day in September, 2020.

19  
20 Konni L. Staph

21 KONNI L. STAPF, CSR, RPR  
22 Registered Professional Reporter  
23 Illinois CSR License No.  
084-004144  
Iowa CSR License No. 1168  
Arizona CSR

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Conducted on September 23, 2020

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